

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chair Llew Jones, on February 19, 2015 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 317
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Llew Jones, Chair (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)
Sen. John Brenden (R)
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Kris Hansen (R)
Sen. David Howard (R)
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore (R)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)
Sen. Rick Ripley (R)
Sen. Matthew M. Rosendale Sr (R)
Sen. Jon C. Sesso (D)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Janna Taylor (R)
Sen. Roger Webb (R)
Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Julie Johnson, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 171, 2/16/15; SB 264, 2/12/2015; SB 148, 2/16/15; SB 210,
2/16/15; SB 324, 2/16/15; SB 344, 2/16/15

HEARING ON SB 171

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:04:20 Sen. Bruce Tutvedt (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 171, Generally revise taxation of income, including the corporate income tax.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:38 Holly Franz, Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants

Opponents' Testimony:

00:06:28 Matt Elsaesser, Montana Recycling Association

00:07:03 Ben Brouwer, policy director, Montana Renewable Energy Association

Informational Testimony:

00:08:27 Dan Dodds, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:08:48 Sen. Tutvedt

HEARING ON SB 264

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:10:21 Sen. Bob Keenan (R), SD 5, opened the hearing on SB 264, Revise distribution of sales and use tax.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:11:45 Mike Scholz, Buck's 7-4 Lodge

[EXHIBIT\(fcs38a01\)](#)

00:19:17 Marilyn Ross, Twin Bridges, representing herself

00:20:44 David Schulz, commissioner, Madison County Commission

00:23:26 Rep. Ray Shaw, HD 61

00:24:38 Carol Brenden, Scobey, representing Montana Arts Council (MAC)

00:27:15 Racene Friede, Glacier Country Regional Tourism Commission

00:32:21 Vicky Soderberg, Cygnet Strategies

00:33:41 Chere Jiusto, executive director, Montana Preservation Alliance

[EXHIBIT\(fcs38a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs38a03\)](#)

00:37:20 Ken Egan, Humanities Montana

[EXHIBIT\(fcs38a04\)](#)

00:38:20 Otis Anderson, Bannack State Park

[EXHIBIT\(fcs38a05\)](#)

00:41:37 Christine Brown, Helena, on behalf of Emily Hibbard, president, Montana History Foundation

[EXHIBIT\(fcs38a06\)](#)

00:42:14 Jeff Welch, MercuryCSC

00:45:59 Matt Ellis, Missoula, representing himself

00:48:01 Stephanie Ambrose Tubbs, Montana Preservation Alliance

00:48:55 Bob Ebinger, Livingston, representing himself

00:49:57 John Laney, executive director, Miles City Chamber of Commerce

00:51:41 Luke Walrath, representing non-profit arts institutions and Glacier Country Tourism Board

00:53:04 Matt Sease, Bozeman, representing himself

00:54:25 Robert Erdall, mayor, Virginia City

00:54:41 John Brewer, president, Billings Chamber of Commerce

00:55:33 Erin Leonard, Virginia City, Montana Heritage Commission

00:56:31 Heidi O'Brien, Helena Business Improvement District and Helena Tourism Alliance

[EXHIBIT\(fcs38a07\)](#)

00:56:57 Alicia Pichette, representing herself

[EXHIBIT\(fcs38a08\)](#)

00:57:09 Mike Penfold, Our Montana

00:57:32 Bob Walker, Montana Trail, Recreation and Parks Association

00:58:16 Jan Cahill, Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce

00:58:36 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony:

00:59:09 Dan Villa, budget director, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:01:42 Sen. Rosendale

01:02:04 Mr. Villa, OBPP

01:03:25 Sen. Rosendale

01:03:34 Mr. Villa

01:04:00 Sen. Hamlett

01:04:25 Sen. Keenan

01:04:33 Stuart Doggett, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association (MLHA)

01:04:52 Sen. Hamlett

01:05:30 Sen. Keenan
01:06:08 Sen. Hansen
01:06:37 Mr. Doggett, MLHA
01:07:36 Sen. Hansen
01:08:37 Mr. Doggett

Closing by Sponsor:

01:09:40 Sen. Keenan

HEARING ON SB 344

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:12:37 Sen. Roger Webb (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 344, Revising laws on reimbursement of certain Medicaid services.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:14:45 Rose Hughes, executive director, Montana Health Care Association
[EXHIBIT\(fcs38a09\)](#)

01:19:59 Jim Fitzgerald, CEO, Intermountain
01:25:57 Kathy McGowan, Community Mental Health Centers
01:29:06 Jani McCall, Yellowstone Provider Group
01:32:05 Erin McGowan, executive director, Montana Children's Initiative

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:33:47 Sen. Ripley
01:34:12 Sen. Webb
01:34:48 Sen. Ripley
01:35:29 Sen. Webb
01:35:36 Sen. Phillips
01:35:48 Sen. Webb
01:35:54 Sen. Hansen
01:36:24 Sen. Webb
01:36:59 Sen. Hansen

Closing by Sponsor:

01:37:05 Sen. Webb

HEARING ON SB 148

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:40:03 Sen. Cary Smith (R), SD 27, opened the hearing on SB 148, Provide for the welfare fraud prevention act.

Proponents: None

Proponents' Testimony:

01:43:03 Jessica Rhoades, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
[EXHIBIT\(fcs38a10\)](#)

01:50:30 Sara Howell, Montana Women Vote

01:51:51 Kim Abbott, Montana Human Rights Network (MHRN)

01:52:44 Kelsen Young, executive director, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCDSV)

01:53:20 Amanda Harrow, Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:54:29 Sen. Webb

01:54:45 Ms. Rhoades, DPHHS

01:55:35 Sen. Webb

01:55:46 Ms. Rhoades

01:56:16 Sen. Keenan assumed the chair.

01:56:17 Sen. Moore

01:56:23 Ms. Rhoades

01:56:40 Sen. Caferro

01:57:57 Ms. Rhoades

01:58:05 Sen. Webb

01:58:12 Ms. Rhoades

01:58:20 Sen. Webb

01:58:29 Ms. Rhoades

01:58:36 Sen. Rosendale

01:59:07 Sen. Smith

01:59:40 Sen. Caferro

01:59:53 Sen. Smith

01:59:58 Sen. Caferro

02:00:24 Sen. Smith

02:01:20 Sen. Webb

02:01:35 Sen. Smith

Closing by Sponsor:

02:02:12 Sen. Smith

02:07:57 Chair Brown assumed the chair.

HEARING ON SB 324

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:08:09 Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R), SD 7, opened the hearing on SB 324, Provide for relief to counties containing federal lands.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:10:27 Sen. Brenden

02:11:17 Sen. Fielder

02:13:28 Sen. Ripley

02:14:05 Sen. Fielder

02:15:00 Sen. Fielder said Mineral County is a proponent.

02:15:06 Sen. Ripley

02:15:10 Sen. Fielder

02:15:56 Sen. Hamlett

02:16:11 Sen. Fielder

02:17:23 Sen. Hamlett

02:17:39 Sen. Fielder

02:18:17 Sen. Webb

02:18:39 Sen. Fielder

02:19:39 Sen. Webb

02:19:55 Sen. Fielder

02:20:46 Sen. Hamlett

02:21:10 Sen. Fielder

02:21:26 Sen. Hamlett

02:22:06 Sen. Fielder

Closing by Sponsor:

02:22:29 Sen. Fielder

HEARING ON SB 210

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:22:50 Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D), SD 39, opened the hearing on SB 210, Include mountain lion in livestock loss program.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:24:30 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union
02:25:11 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation and speaking for Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association
02:28:00 George Golie, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

02:28:48 Quentin Kujala, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
02:29:07 George Edwards, Livestock Loss Board, Department of Livestock (DOL)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:29:48 Sen. Rosendale
02:30:04 Mr. Kujala, FWP
02:30:14 Sen. Rosendale
02:30:20 Mr. Kujala
02:30:30 Sen. Rosendale
02:30:52 Mr. Edwards, DOL
02:31:37 Sen. Hamlett
02:31:59 Sen. Vuckovich
02:32:26 Sen. Blasdel
02:33:19 Mr. Kujala

Closing by Sponsor:

02:34:22 Sen. Vuckovich

02:35:45 Sen. Brenden
02:35:54 Chair Brown

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:36 p.m.

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

pg

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fcs38aad.pdf](#))